
**Thomas Jefferson to James Monroe, May 17, 1808, from
Thomas Jefferson and James Monroe Correspondence,
Transcribed and Edited by Gerard W. Gawalt,
Manuscript Division, Library of Congress**

Thomas Jefferson to James Monroe

Monticello May 17. 08.

Sir

Yours of the 13th was received last night, and really presents a painful state of things.
However our object now can be only how to meet the new deficit, with the least injustice.
Your statement is as follows.

Debts paid by Mr. Monroe 28,107.76

By Mr. Claxton 5,603.76

Do remaining unpaid 20,829.86

Expenditures on the public offices 3,218.65

57,560.01

Appropriation for the deficit of 1807 51,500.

Apparent deficit 6,060.01

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Charge upon the funds of 1808 each it's own part of

the monies expended from Jan. 1. to Apr. 25. 08 2,380.

3,860.01

Levy this sum of 3,860.01 rateably on all the outstanding debts of more than 1000D. These will amount (according to your statement) to 18,606. 51 consequently each of these large creditors must be content to receive about 80D in the 100 and to wait awhile for the remaining 20D. It will then be our duty to save the 3860.01 out of the expenditures of 1808. What part of these expenditures may be dispensed with, must be the subject of consideration when I return to Washington. As I am detaining the post for this letter, I must pray you to communicate it to Mr. Claxton and the answer to his letter of the 15th and also to Mr. Latrobe as what must govern our future expenditures. I salute you with esteem & respect Th. Jefferson

P.S. I inclose the 2 warrants for 16,096.24 & 10,000D.

FC (Jefferson Papers, Library of Congress).Although listed in the Jefferson Papers index as a letter to James Monroe, future president, it is to a different "Mr. Monroe" -almost certainly Thomas Munroe, clerk of the Board of Commissioners of the federal district.